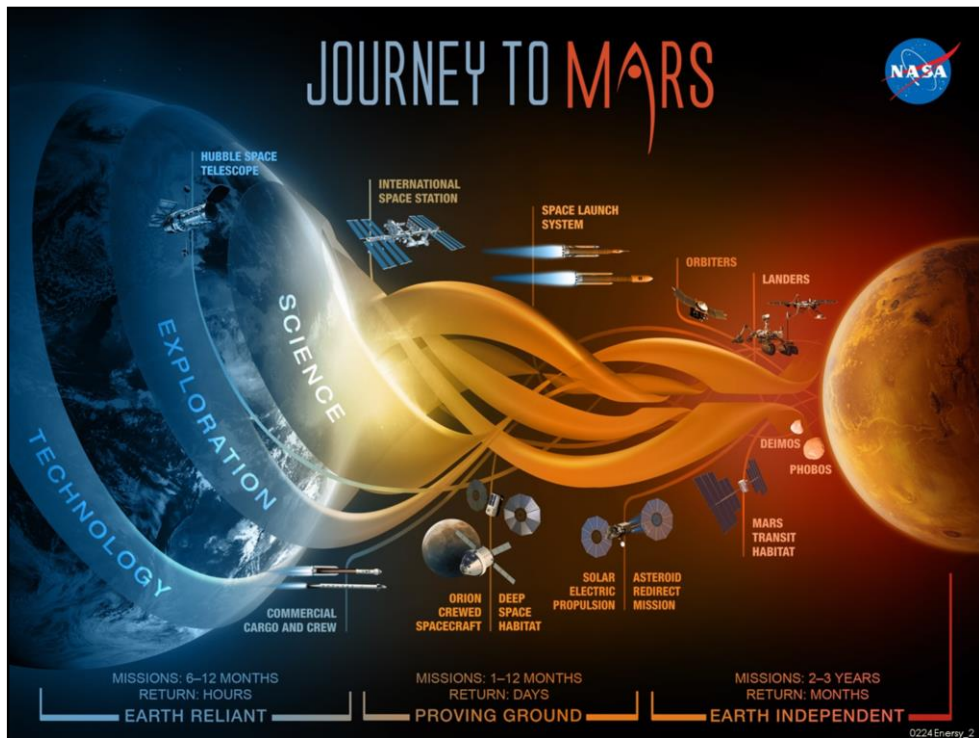




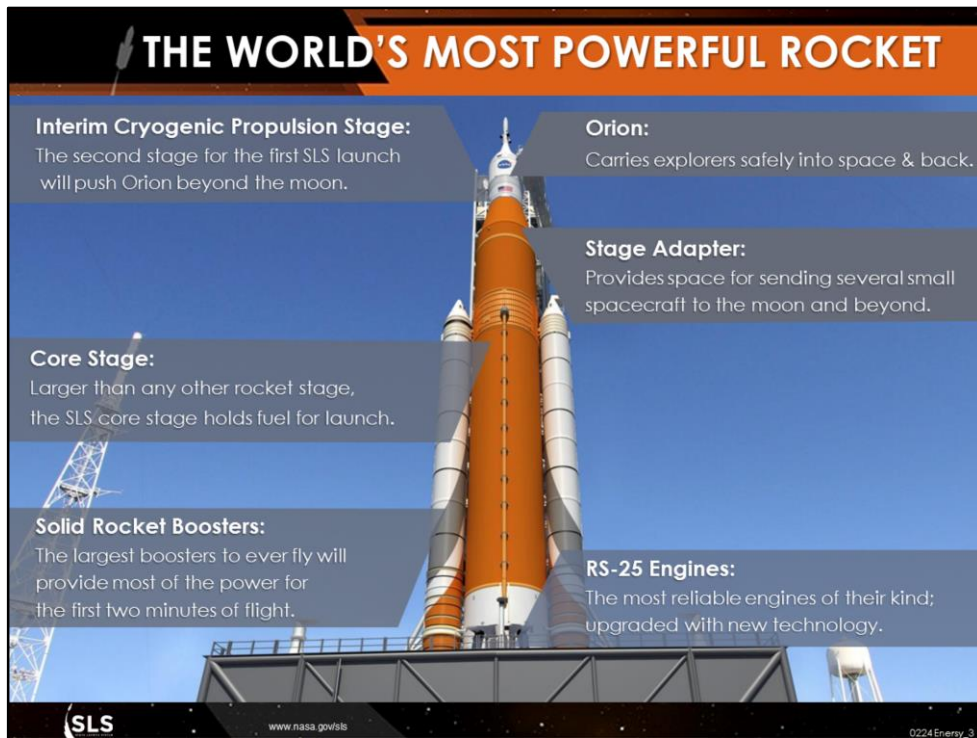
This is an approximately 20-minute briefing on SLS for general public audiences.

General themes of this briefing:

- 1) NASA has begun a new era of human space exploration, with the goal of landing humans on Mars.
- 2) To carry out that mission, NASA is building the Space Launch System, the world's most powerful rocket.
- 3) Space Launch System is currently under construction, with substantial amounts of hardware already created and testing well underway.
- 4) Because of its unrivaled power, SLS can perform missions no other rocket can, like game-changing science and human landings on Mars.



- 1) The Journey to Mars has begun; NASA has begun a series of missions that will result in astronauts taking the first steps on the Red Planet.
- 2) Today, the International Space Station, supported by Commercial partners, is allowing us to gain knowledge that will make the journey possible.
- 3) Robotic explorers are currently on the Martian surface and in orbit, helping us to better understand the Red Planet and prepare to send humans.
- 4) In the coming years, NASA will launch a series of missions, beginning in the space around the moon and then going farther out, that will demonstrate new systems and capabilities that will enable the journey.
- 5) SLS and Orion are the first new systems that will make the journey possible.



**This shows the major features of the Block 1 version we are developing now.**

- Our driving requirements are safety, affordability and sustainability.
- The key to that is making best use of common elements, existing investments in technology, infrastructure and workforce, the inherent advantages of heavy lift, and an evolvable vehicle design.
- Current configuration is the result of literally thousands of trades involving cost, performance, stages, mission architecture, etc.
- 70 metric tons payload (154,000 lbs)
- Designed for affordability – based on the Space Shuttle heritage RS-25 engine and the solid rocket booster both upgraded for performance: 109 vs. 104 percent power for RS-25 and 5-segment vs. 4-segment booster for 20 percent more power on the boosters.
- Upper stage for first mission is the Interim Cryogenic Stage, based on the Delta Cryogenic Second Stage.
- We formally stood up this program in September 2011.
- Manufacturing under way on every major component, including test and flight hardware.

**SLS offers unrivaled benefits for a variety of missions.**

- Block 1 provides greater mass lift than any contemporary launch vehicle.
- SLS Block 1 has 10 percent more thrust than the Saturn V.
- With 8.4m and 10m fairings, SLS will over greater volume lift capability than any other vehicle.

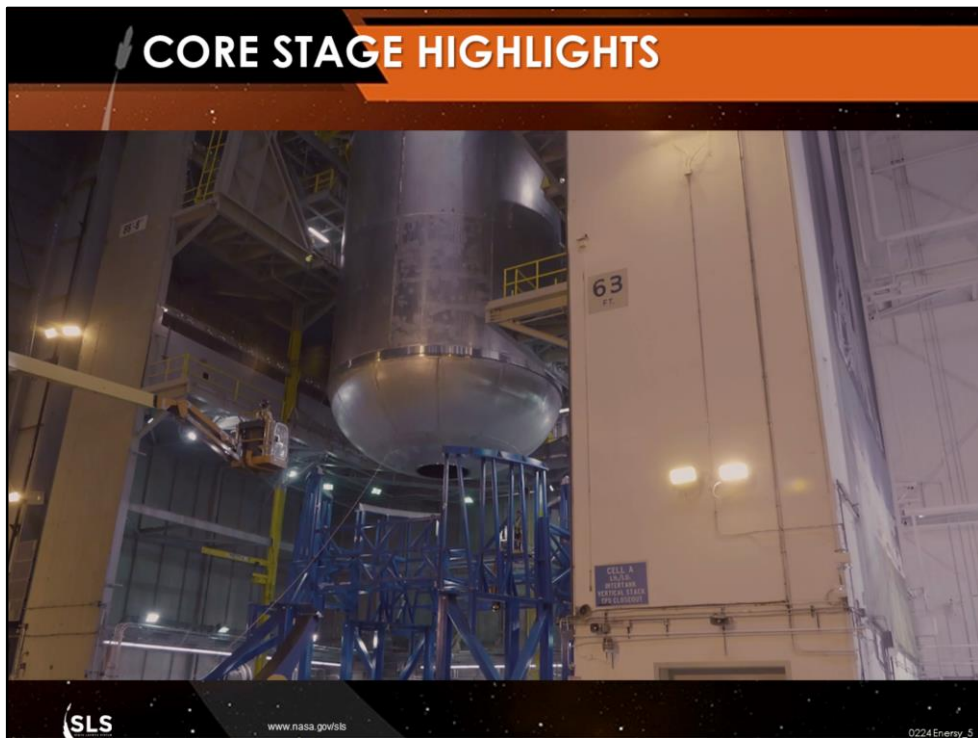
**A key feature of the design is a clear path to evolve to greater capability as missions become more challenging.**

- The Block 1 SLS leverages heritage hardware and technology to support affordable development and reduce risk.
- The SLS Program is finding ways to upgrade those Block 1 systems to improve performance so we can evolve the Block 1 vehicle to a Block 2 variant with more thrust off the pad and more payload. It will have a larger cargo fairing, a new upper stage, and advanced boosters.
- Block 1 is 322 feet tall. Block 2 will be 365 feet tall with 130 metric tons of payload and the largest payload volume in history.
- Using legacy hardware and infrastructure keeps our funding profile flat, yet delivers near-term capability using available assets and advanced hardware well into development.
- By leveraging existing capabilities and planning for evolution based on commonalities, SLS will evolve into the most powerful launch vehicle ever flown, while honoring those three driving objectives: safety, affordability, and sustainability.



- 1) Core Stage will be the tallest rocket stage ever flown.
- 2) Core Stage is being built at Michoud Assembly Facility outside New Orleans., LA, using state-of-the-art manufacturing tools, including the world's largest welding tool.
- 3) Flight hardware and test article tanks, 27.6 feet across, are currently being produced at Michoud, including: weld confidence articles, structural test articles and EM-1 flight articles.





**28 seconds – LOX qual tank removal and break-over**

**Also produced engine section test article and flight article and LH tank confidence and test article.**

## ADDITIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS



LVSA



LH2 Tank Test Stand



ICPS



Pegasus barge



Stennis Test Stand B2

SLS

www.nasa.gov/sls

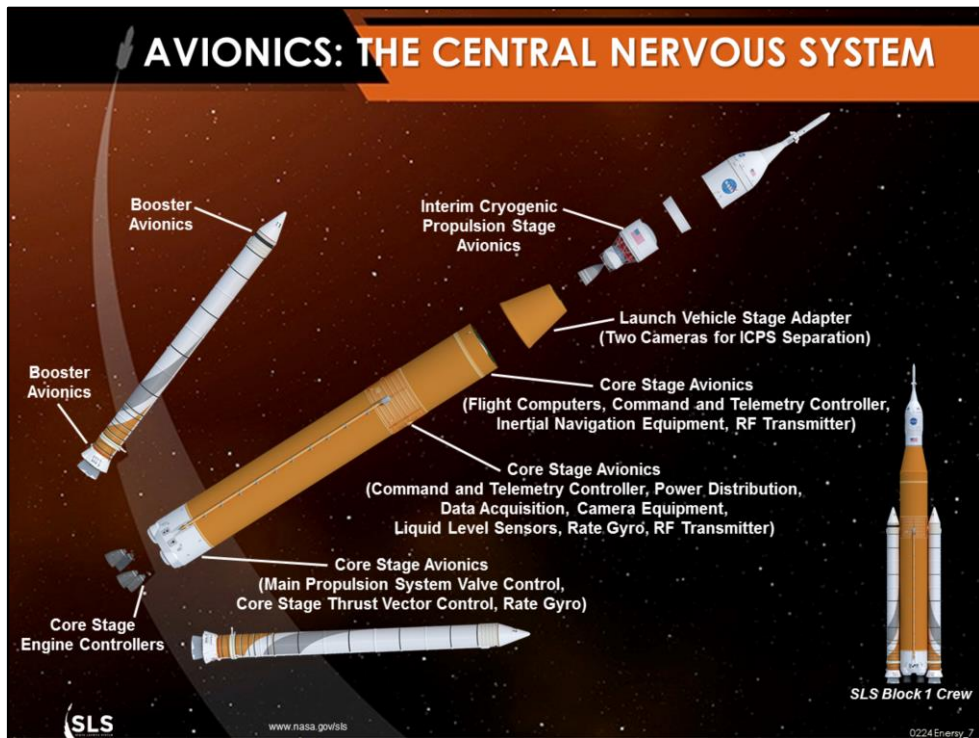
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**Clockwise from upper left:**

- LVSA structural test article completed at MSFC this year
- Core Stage Liquid Hydrogen test stand at MSFC, one of 5 test facilities that will test core stage components
- ICPS structural test article completed 2015 at ULA in Decatur, Alabama, delivered to MSFC for testing in 2016
- Stennis Space center B2 green run test stand work packages under way
- Lengthened Pegasus barge outfitted to support transportation to MSFC and KSC

**Other Testing:**

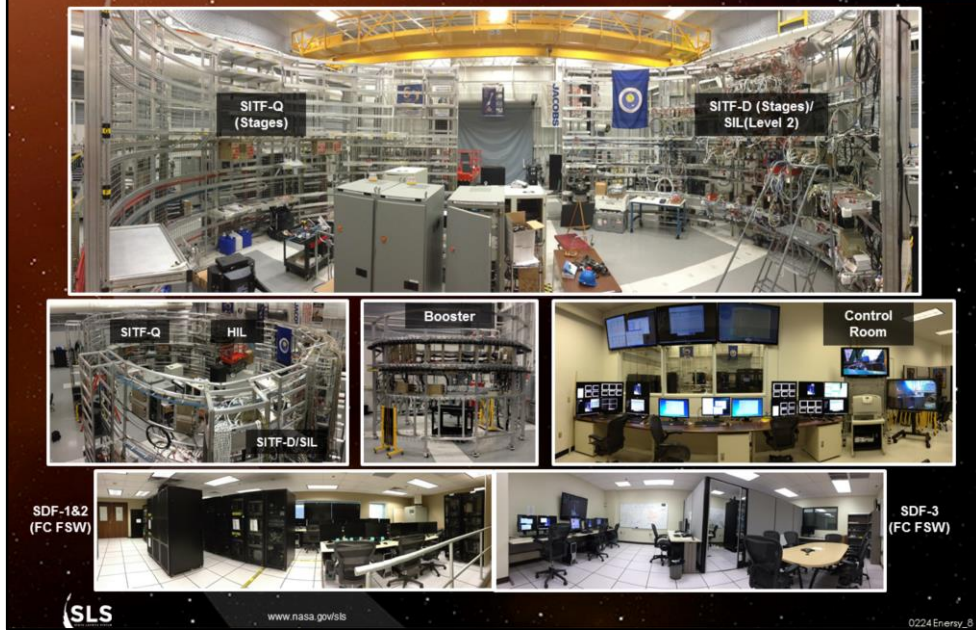
- Base heating
- Wind tunnel



- You are part of the core stage avionics team, so I'd like to take a moment to show you where you fit into SLS.
- This image shows the locat
- ion of all SLS avionics – excluding Orion avionics.



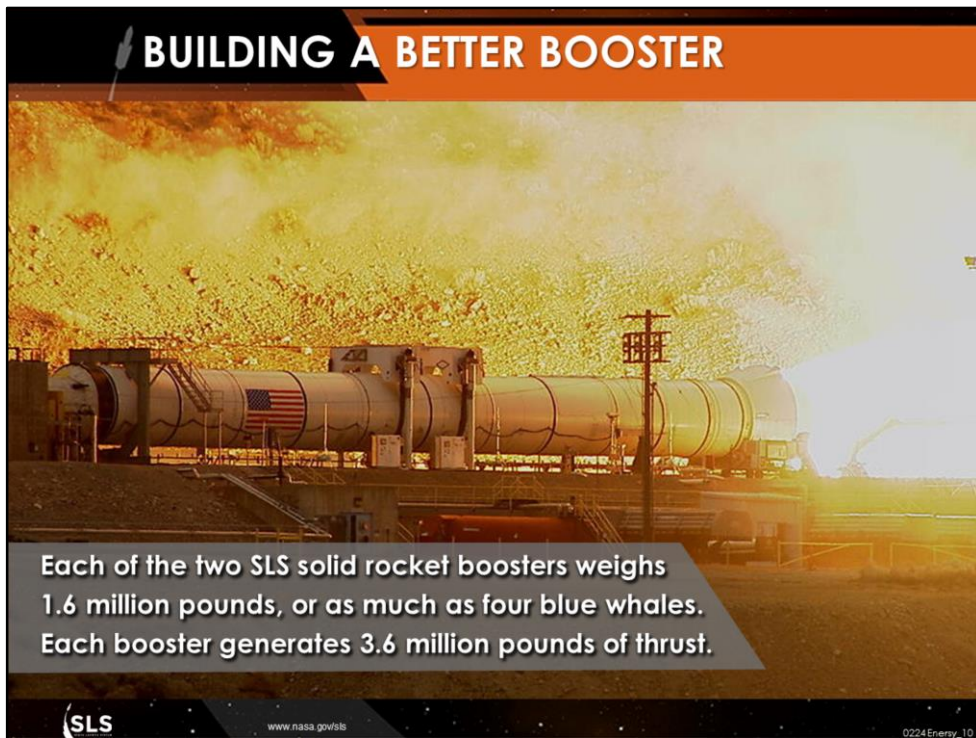
# AVIONICS DEVELOPMENT AND TESTING



- MSFC facilities for testing SLS Block 1 avionics and software – the Integrated Avionics Test Facility.
- Integrates the various components shown in previous slide.
- Capable of virtually flying simulated missions using real avionics hardware and software.



30 seconds - March 2016 time lapse video of SITF Q setup



- 1) The Space Shuttle used a solid rocket booster with four propellant segments; the SLS boosters add a fifth segment for more power. It provides 3.6 million pounds maximum thrust.
- 2) The case hardware for the first flights of SLS is currently in inventory at Kennedy Space Center.
- 3) A first qualification test of the booster was successfully completed in March 2015
- 4) QM-2 was test fired in June 2016. Disassembly is ongoing but preliminary indications look good.
- 5) Flight motors are being cast now for shipment to KSC.

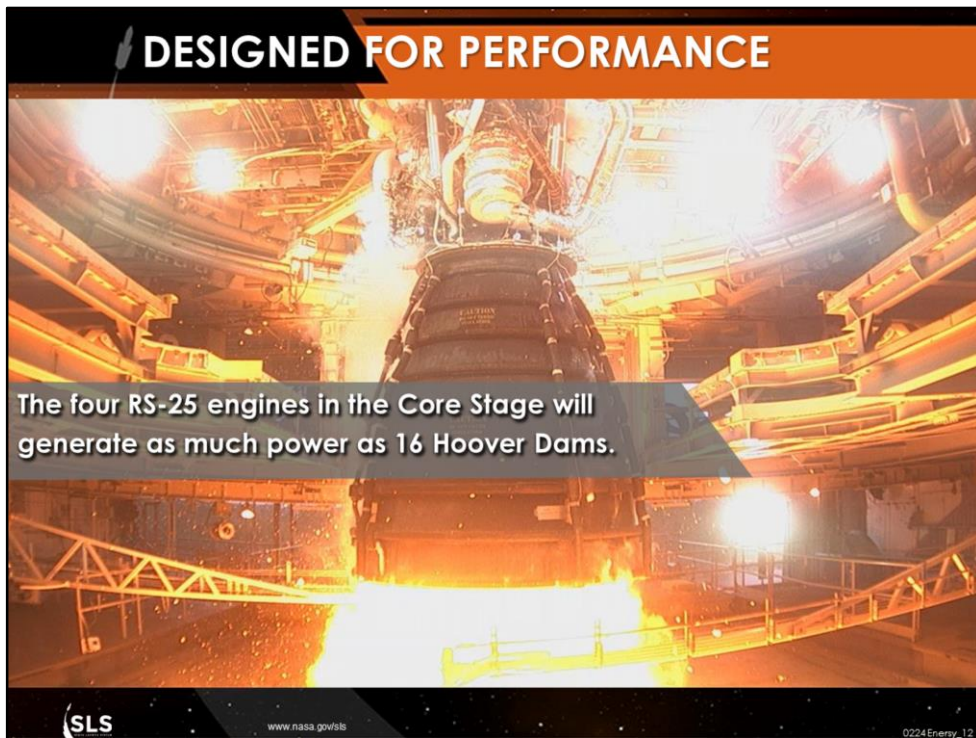
**Booster Facts:** 177 feet tall, 12 feet in diameter. Each weighs 1.6 million pounds (as much as four blue whales) and generates up to 3.6 million pounds of thrust.



## 26 seconds - motor casting at OATK and QM-2 highlights

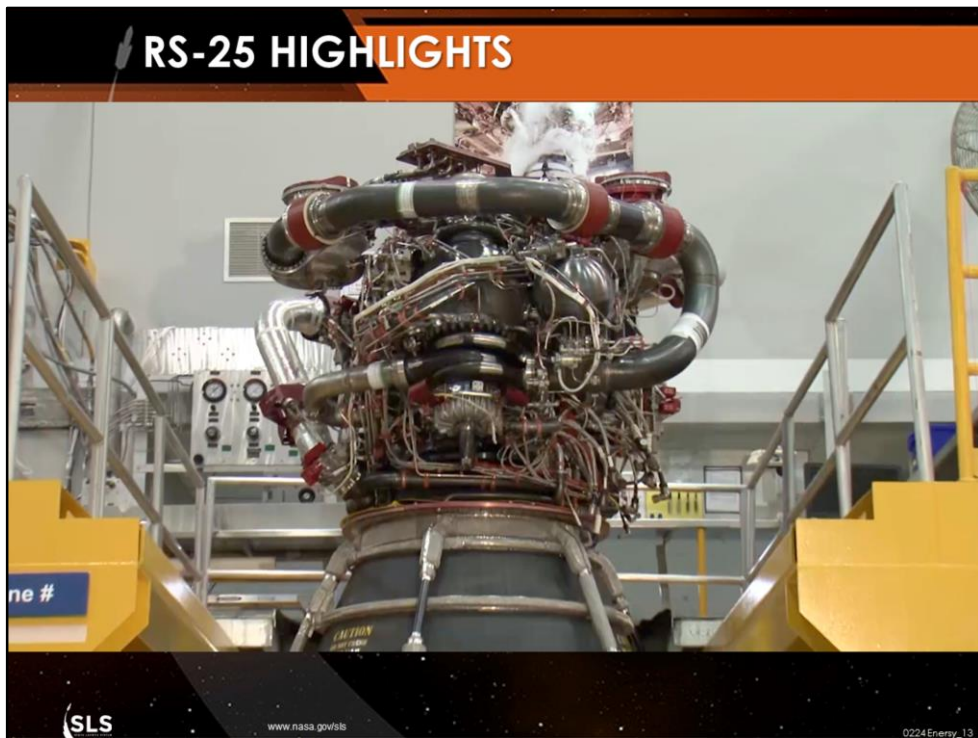
- Interesting high speed camera footage of ignition shock wave and motor nozzle plug blowing out





- 1) The Space Shuttle was powered by three RS-25 engines, which were continuously updated throughout the shuttle program.
- 2) SLS will use four RS-25 engines – each roughly 500,000 pounds of thrust – and has made further upgrades to leverage current technology.
- 3) Engines for the first four flights are currently in inventory at Stennis Space Center in Mississippi, including 14 heritage flown engines and two new engines, all from the shuttle program.
- 4) The first SLS test series of the engine was conducted in 2015; a flight engine test was conducted in March 2016, and additional testing will prepare for the Green Run test firing of Core Stage in 2017.

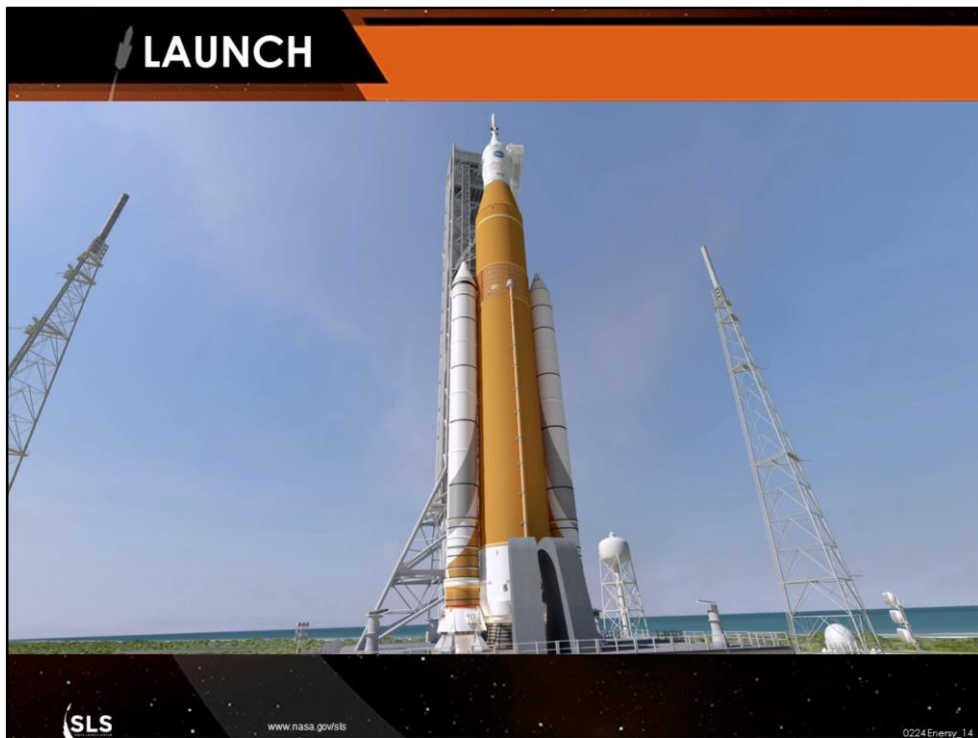




**25 seconds – engine assembly and hotfire test at SSC**

- **“Adaptation” tests in 2015 and 2016 to adapt the engines to variety of SLS requirements and environments including:**

**Increased propellant inlet pressures and lower temperatures, throttle profile, pre-launch engine conditioning, new engine controllers and software.**



### **34 seconds – SLS launch day beauty shot and initial ascent**

- **This is what we are all working toward, the EM-1 mission now set for late 2018.**
- **Ambitious schedule of manufacturing and testing for the next 2 years.**



Thank the audience, remind them that this is THEIR space program, and encourage them to join on us the journey with the social media links listed.